

TECHNICAL NAME OF SUGAR MAPLE.—Mr. Kenneth K. Mackenzie announces in RHODORA (Vol. 28, p. 111, 1926) that *Acer saccharum* Marshall, long used to designate our Sugar Maple, should be abandoned, and, I infer, for *Acer saccharinum* L. In fact he says that “Marshall never published any such species.” Nevertheless, Marshall did publish (*Arbustum Americanum*, p. 4, 1785) *Acer saccharum*, which is a perfectly valid species. It may be said here that Linnaeus never published any such species as *Acer saccharinum*, meaning our Sugar Maple. This proposed upheaval is due to the fact that in translating Marshall’s *Arbustum Americanum*, M. Lezermes took the liberty of substituting *Acer saccharinum* Linnaeus for Marshall’s *Acer saccharum*, thereby only confusing the situation.

Because Lezermes changed Marshall’s *Acer saccharum* to *Acer saccharinum* Linnaeus is no reason why the change should be accepted.

As we now understand *Acer saccharum* Marshall it is the oldest valid name applied to the Sugar Maple, while the name *Acer saccharinum* Linnaeus is the oldest valid name applied to the Silver Maple, which is of course quite different from the Sugar Maple. What possible reason there can be for disturbing either of these names is difficult to see. *Acer saccharinum* Wangenheim was for many years applied to the Sugar Maple, but this name is antedated 34 years by Linnaeus’s *Acer saccharinum*, for the Silver Maple, so that Wangenheim’s name has no standing except as a synonym of Marshall’s *Acer saccharum*.

We have many badly made technical names of trees and other plants, names which from a literary point of view could be much improved by making new ones or by discarding them, as M. Lezermes did and Mr. Mackenzie would seem to approve following in the case of *Acer saccharum* Marshall. Fortunately, however, we do not have the right, nor do we, with the hope of our suggestions being followed, assume to discard or materially change properly published names of plants, even though such names have been badly made. They are legally established and we haven’t the right or privilege of discarding them at will.—GEO. B. SUDWORTH, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

---

LYGODIUM PALMATUM AND AGRIMONIA MOLLIS IN BERKSHIRE CO., MASS.—Dewey in the list of plants of Berkshire Co., Mass., published in 1829, gave *Lygodium palmatum* from Becket. The species has not since been reported from the county. Mr. C. A. Weatherby, however,

informs me that in August, 1925, he was shown a single plant in Monterey. The station is said originally to have covered a space of about ten by twelve feet and has been known for fifty years. The reduction of the colony to a single plant can be accounted for, Mr. Weatherby thinks, by the growing up of woods around it.

Mr. Weatherby also writes that he found a considerable quantity of *Agrimonia mollis* in woods in the southern part of Lenox. Specimens of each of the above will be deposited in the Gray Herbarium or in that of the New England Botanical Club.—RALPH HOFFMANN, Carpinteria, California.

*Vol. 28, no. 332, including pages 133 to 156, was issued 8 September, 1926.*